

## THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 2 1896

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## N. R. P. A.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

Four new Alliances were organized in Pennsylvania last month.

They may be only half civilized in Mexico, for they still patronize bull fights. But, then, we have foot ball games here in the United States. What is the difference?

Chief Clerk J. W. Denmark of the State Treasury Department, drew a check a few days ago for \$73,823 to pay interest on State of North Carolina bonds held in New York.

Government reports show an increase of 16 per cent. in cotton acreage, and a decrease of 29 per cent. in corn acreage, in North Carolina this year, as compared with last year.

Tonnage tax on fertilizers, turned into the State Treasury to date, this year, show sales of 172,357 tons, against 102,93 tons the same time last year. An increase of 70,224 tons.

Brabster West's letters from Washington, will be a regular feature of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER hereafter. They alone will be worth the subscription price of the paper. Don't fail to read them.

Statistics show that over one third of the farms in Iowa are mortgaged, and the total indebtedness amounts to \$138,585,720. How much more currency contraction will it take to finish up the job?

Hon. John Allen, the well known Democratic politician of Mississippi, speaking of his free silver Democratic friends, says: "We have got the gold men whipped if they don't buy us." According to Mr. Allen every silver Democrat has his price.

A New York bank has refused to make loans on Alabama State War bonds because that State has two silver Senators at Washington. That is all right. Let New York keep her money, and let the South and West join hands and get prosperous by having nothing to do with New York.

The Concord Standard says that the Southern Railway Company takes in about \$240,000 annually at that town, which is sufficient to pay the rental of the North Carolina Railroad. If the receipts at one station will pay the rent, the Company will reap an enormous profit out of the trade.

The editor of the Winston Republican is one ahead of the Democrats. He says: "The masses of the people of North Carolina, irrespective of party, favor bimetalism and sound money." It is plain that the Republican is prepared to ride three horses going in opposite directions. The Goslin is a full grown gander at last.

The Alliance promulgated the very best political doctrine years and years ago, and it stands the test of time. If any party incorporates that doctrine in its platform this year we will vote that ticket, but will not waste time and compromise principle by voting any straddlebug or goldbug ticket. Every man who really wants reform will take the same position.

## THE ST. LOUIS DISASTER.

A large portion of the city of St. Louis is in ruins. More than five hundred people were killed outright and thousands wounded by the cyclone, or rather three cyclones which were merged into one just as they struck that city last Wednesday evening. Probably more people were killed and drowned in each of the two storms which visited portions of the South Atlantic Coast two or three years ago, but the property damage was not as great. Other cyclones in the interior have been destructive, sometimes destroying small villages, but this is the first time that a great American city has been directly in the track of a cyclone of such proportions. Three awful cyclones, coming from the southwest, west and northwest, struck St. Louis at the same moment, and without warning. Immense brick and granite buildings were blown down as though they were built of paper. Fortunately it only cut a narrow path through the city. But the wind was strong enough on either side to do great damage to light buildings. To add to the horror, fire started in the wrecked buildings, the electric light wires were down and soon the city was in total darkness. Many streets were so full of debris that the fire companies could not get to the scene of the fires, railroads could not run trains and the telegraph wires were down. Steamboats were sunk in the Mississippi and a train was blown from the track on one of the bridges. Four hundred thousand people spent a fearful night hunting for dead and wounded friends. It will be many days before the remains of the dead will all be found, as some are buried under fallen buildings.

## HOW IT WILL BE DONE.

The New York Times, which is in the hands of a receiver on account of a lack of sound money to pay its expenses, is still clamoring for the success of the bond buyers and other moneygrats. It tells what must be done at Chicago and how it will be done, as follows:

"The fight at Chicago will be a fight for a sound money candidate and a sound money platform. It will be carried on after the familiar fashion in the corridors of the hotels, in the streets and public places, and in the rooms of delegates and delegations. It will be a talking match of vast proportions, earnest, strenuous, protracted, and of vital importance to the party and to the country. The minds of the delegates from the South and West must be convinced, if not of the perils of free coinage, at least of the impolicy of entering now upon that experiment, and they must be convinced that with a sound money candidate, and only with a sound money candidate, the Democratic party can hold the Presidential duty."

One very noticeable thing just now is the absence of Gen. Weyler's picture from the columns of the daily papers and magazines. Why don't they print his picture?

## GOING TO THE FOUNTAIN.

The Missouri State Democratic Convention practically adopted the Omaha platform. One of the delegates, A. H. Buchanan, of Douglas county, there upon joined the People's party. In a published letter giving his reasons, he said that a party that would fight the People's party as hard as the Democratic party had done, and then turn around and adopt the platform of the People's party, was no longer entitled to support, and would likely repudiate its own action at the first opportunity. He said he would go to the fountain itself. There is some sound reasoning in that, and it is time to open your eyes when your party suddenly whirls completely over and adopts the platform of another party which it has been fighting to the death. Democrats should ponder over this subject.

## THE GOLD SLIDE ALL GREASED.

The prosperity of the government cannot reach a higher level than that of the people. In fact, the condition of the treasury in a government of the people and by the people is a tolerably faithful registry of the condition of the great majority of tax payers, says the Atlanta Constitution.

During the past ten months the receipts of the treasury from all sources have fallen short of expenses by \$23,200,000. This decrease registers the shrinkage in the consumption of goods and in the purchasing power of the people. This deficit stands out ominously and shows how the prosperity of the people has shrunk since 1893.

There are other omens in the sky. In the midst of all the talk about "parity" the course of exchange shows that no "parity" exists between the gold of Europe and the gold of this country. In New York interest is low and gold is at a premium. The Secretary of the Treasury has called on the banks to pay into the sub-treasury the small amount of gold they hold on account

of the recent bond sale. Foreign exchange stands at \$4.90 instead of at the par figures of \$1.86. Is there any parity between \$4.90 and \$1.86? This is the so called "international money" that "has the same value everywhere all the time!"

When British gold is worth at home \$4.90 of our gold, instead of \$1.86, our gold must be shipped to pay the demands held over there. The reason of the Secretary for withdrawing the gold on deposit in the banks is to place it in the sub-treasury where it will be convenient to the Belmonts and the Ikey Isenheimers, who are preparing to make another raid on the treasury gold.

The syndicates on this side and the Rothschilds on the other have shown beyond all question that they are able to corner all the available gold in this country and in Europe. They did this when, for five or six months last year they controlled absolutely the rate of exchange. They could only do this by cornering in this country and in Europe the gold that drifts from nation to nation in response to the demands of trade and commerce.

This being so, all the conditions are ripe for another bond issue this year. But in order to get bonds the treasury gold must be raised. Even that is fixed for. Exchange rules strong and steady at the shipping point, and Mr. Carlisle stands with his hat off ready to wait on such distinguished customers as the Rothschilds and the Morgans.

But are the Rothschilds and the syndicate to be blamed or even criticized for forcing bonds issues and saddling large additions to the public debt on the taxpayers? Not a bit of it. These bankers have no right under the law to draw out a dollar more of gold than Carlisle is pleased to give them. Every time legal tender note is redeemed in gold on demand of the holder the law is violated. Every time a bond is issued to buy gold the people are robbed.

Fortunately the honest voters of the country are beginning to understand and appreciate these things.

## COWARDLY MCKINLEY.

It is said that the probable candidate for the Presidency on the Republican ticket, has, at various times voted in Congress for silver. But no one now doubts his goldbug tendencies. Senator Sherman recently gave him a "letter of credit," and that settles it. However, some of the New Yorkers are pretending to denounce McKinley because he does not make a declaration on the money question. This is mere buncombe. They want the silver Republicans to believe that they (the goldbugs) fear McKinley. No one needs any sleep on that account. McKinley has already signed an oath bound contract with plutocracy and will be found right when they want him.

But we started out to moralize a little about McKinley's cowardice. No intelligent voter will give his support to a man who is an unknown quantity. If McKinley was not a political coward he would express himself on the one great issue. When a candidate for a great office begins to straddle, to close up his mouth and seal it, you may feel pretty sure that he either has no decided convictions, or else is not man enough to stand by them, and if he straddles before the convention, you may feel sure that he will do so afterwards, even during his term of office. There is one party that will not nominate such a man this year. You can guess which one it will be.

## THE FIRST GUN.

The first national convention this year resulted in a split. Probably others will follow. The National Prohibition Convention met at Pittsburg, Pa., last week. About eight hundred delegates were present. The broad-gauge, or silver men fought hard to get a free coinage plank incorporated in the platform, but the gold men won and nominated Joshua Levering, of Maryland, a "sound money" man, for President. This was all the reformers could stand, and over three hundred of the delegates marched out, secured another hall and got down to business. Mr. St. John led the movement. This wing made a platform to suit their notions and nominated a ticket. C. E. Bentley of Nebraska, was nominated for President, and James H. Southgate, of Durham, N. C., for Vice President. Mr. Southgate is one of North Carolina's most substantial citizens.

Prof. Ely, who has carefully examined the telegraph system in Germany, says: "Experienced and tried men, with comparatively short hours, are employed in the government telegraph offices in Germany, while in the telegraph offices of this country one finds very young lads, and they are frequently overworked. The contrast with the neat and attractive offices found in that country is painful, and it is really a disgrace to our own country."

## THE WOOL MARKET.

Textile World for May, published in Boston, under caption, *Wool Market* says the first of the present month marks the ending of another wool year, and there is more wool in stock on hand than ever before at the closing of the season. If not another pound was imported there is nearly enough to supply the entire consumption for twelve months to come. Basing the estimate on figures officially reported by the Manufacturers' Association last year, the clip of 1895 was about 275 million pounds. Including wool wasts about 280 million pounds were imported, bringing the total for the year up to approximately 555 million pounds. Under consumption and large imports of foreign goods would indicate that the domestic production would not call for quite 300 million pounds and consequently there must be materially over 200 million pounds of old wool yet remaining.

No improvement is visible in the market for domestic wool, prices being nominal and very unsatisfactory.

If the above be correct then it would seem to be the part of wisdom for farmers having wool to exchange it for woolen goods with our woolen mills and thus obtain comfortable clothing for their families without any cash outlay.

## THE POOR WORKINGMAN.

It is truly wonderful to notice the interest the goldbugs now have in the poor workingman. Having succeeded in ruining the workingman as well as the business man and farmer, they are now trying to convince the working man that goldbuggery is the proper caper. Recently the "Young Men's Sound Money Club," of Atlanta, asked permission to send a speaker to address the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers in that city. F. R. Richardson, editor of the Atlanta Journal, was the speaker. Here is what Mr. W. L. Simmons, one of the engineers, said about the speech:

"When he had finished I wanted to ask him a few questions. He was arguing that the fall of prices was caused by over production and said that the free coinage of silver would not help it. I asked him for statistics, but he said that he did not have any statistics with him, but he knew this, that as long as farmers raised ten or twelve million bales of cotton they would get their 4 or 5 cents a pound for it."

"I asked this, whether he based his statement upon a comparison with consumption, but he said nothing. He also said that the stamping of the silver dollar with the seal of the United States did not enhance its value. I asked him if this was true. He said that it might be increased a little, but that it would remain the same 50 cents dollar. I then asked him how he could account for the fact that in 78, when they were discussing the B and Allison act and there was every probability of a bill favorable to silver passing both houses, that it rose in price in the stock market 23 or 40 cents."

"Well," he said, "Mr. Crisp had said that this was true, and it was claimed by several of the silver leaders, but that he did not believe it." I informed him that it was true. One of his committee pulled his coat tail and told him it was right, that it rose about thirty or thirty two cents. Then Mr. Richardson said, "Maybe it did."

"I asked Mr. Richardson about the price of products; whether it would not increase the price of products to have free coinage of silver. He said that our interests are not with the farmer exactly. He said that he had never believed that laboring men in the cities who worked for fixed salaries were identified with the farming element. He said that he did not think that the working men in the cities should ally themselves with the farmers, that it was to our interest to get our products as cheap as possible, and, on the other hand, to hold our wages up; that he had been identified with salaried laboring classes in the commercial world for a number of years and studied the matter from his standpoint, and that he honestly believed that our interests were separate and distinct from those of the farmers."

"I then asked him if it was not a fact that where the farmers of the country were prosperous and happy and money plentiful we did not find all lines of labor in the same condition."

"He did not answer this, but bowed and thanked us, then excused himself."

"I find the working classes about 90 per cent. for silver that I have talked to," continued Mr. Simmons, after he had finished his account of the visit of the committee. "I belong to several labor organizations; that is, I am identified with several in a business way, and I have seen them polled several times, and invariably it was a declaration for silver. I believe the working classes of Atlanta are in favor of it."

"I am surprised," said another well known workingman yesterday, "that these gold people are just beginning to

take an interest in the working classes. I don't see what's the matter with them lately, but maybe they have come too late. We know that our salaries have been cut under the gold and bond administration, and we know that we will be cut twice as much if the gold standard comes. We can't have any higher wages now, because if we ask for them we are told to get out, as there are ten men waiting for every place. We know that free and unlimited coinage will remedy all this, and the work of these gold men can't have any effect."

## TO MAKE SILVER COIN LEGAL TENDER.

The Philadelphia Item, one of the few unbought great papers in the Northeast, having a daily circulation of 140,000 copies, commends Senator Butler's plan for the different States to make a foreign silver coin containing pure silver equal in amount to our own standard silver dollars legal tender within their borders. We make the following extract from a column article in the Item:

The point being, the Constitution provides and permits States to make SILVER COIN A FULL LEGAL TENDER, but not to mint it.

The permission means in effect, that any State in this country can, if it so elects, make Mexican silver dollars a full legal tender within the limits of the State. Also make the Japanese yen a like legal tender, or any of the South American coins that correspond to the Mexican dollar or our own standard dollar.

In 1841 President Tyler, to furnish the people with money in opposition to the threats by bankers of contracting this country's money, because he refused to allow the banks Federal privileges, made FOREIGN SILVER COINS, as above described, a LEGAL TENDER in this country.

While the legal tender caused for silver to be a common currency in this country for years afterwards, and greatly to our prosperity, the privilege was finally repealed.

But this repeal of Congress does not affect the rights of the States under the Constitution to enact State laws again making all those foreign coins a full legal tender.

The effect in practice of so doing would be tremendous!

So far reaching and enormous would be these effects, that it becomes impossible to foresee their entire limit.

One of the very least consequences would be such a tremendous prosperity for the State so acting, a rise in prices and wages, and consequent depression of industries in neighboring States who refused to act, that the lines of demarcation or separation between the two would be far greater and far graver than actual secession.

In fact, such an action on the part of a single State would undoubtedly solve the silver question for the United States in short order; for it would literally force all other States in this country, in sheer self defense, to do likewise; or, what would come to the same thing, cause them all to force the immediate passage of a free silver law.

## KAFFIR CORN.

"Kafir Corn: Characteristics, Culture, and Uses," pp 12, fig 1, by C. C. Georgeson, Professor of Agriculture in the Kansas State Agricultural College, is No. 37 of the series of Farmers' Bulletins issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It will be sent free to all who apply to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Kafir corn is a native of South Africa and belongs to the same group of plants as broom corn and other nonsaccharine sorghums. It was introduced into this country about ten years ago by the United States Department of Agriculture, and distributed all over the country. The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1887 gives most favorable comments on Kafir corn from Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Texas, and since then it has become very popular in California and Kansas. It withstands drought better than Indian corn and gives a larger yield. An analysis shows that it is not so rich in protein as Indian corn, and an experiment at the Kansas Agricultural College shows that it is not equal to Indian corn as a feed for fattening hogs. However, the author says that "the farmers of Kansas and Oklahoma have given it much attention during the three or four years past, and finding it valuable stock food, are cultivating it on a large and ever increasing scale. Its drought-resisting qualities have recommended it especially to farmers living in localities too dry for the best development of corn."

The titled foreigners who have married American heiresses wish it distinctly understood that they favor the single gold standard, as under it the dollar of their wives will buy more luxuries and employ more flunkies.—Silver Knight.

## CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs From Reform Papers. Let's see, does anyone remember whether or not there was a vice president elected about four years ago, and what his name was, and what became of him.—People's Pilot.

There are some people who would rather vote to uphold a system that is robbing them than to vote against their party. There is no heroism in this; it is pure cussedness.—Glasville Signal.

This is said to be a government of the people, but a greater mistake was never made made. It is a government of the few who control the wealth, and the people are not in it.—Southern Mercury.

The only way the free silver democrats can drive the goldbugs out of the Democratic party is to leave it themselves, then the goldbugs will go to the Republican party and drive the free silver men out of it.—People's Advocate.

A prominent free silver Democrat of this city said to us the other day, "They (the goldbugs) are still calling us Populists, but we don't care for it. In fact we are getting so we like to be called Populists.—Henderson (Ky.) Courier.

If there is such a thing in our financial affairs as a 50 cent dollar, for heaven's sake where is the 50 cent piece relegated to? There isn't a 50 cent dollar to be found in the country, and none talk in such strain until folks and liars.—American Enterprise.

Senator Butler's bill to prevent the further issue of bonds by the President without consent of congress is evidently designed to discourage Grover from trying for a third term. With the bond issues taken out of his hands his job wouldn't pay for the bait.—Sound Money.

Mexico with a population of 11,000,000 produced 60,000,000 silver and coined 28,000,000 and has no tramps. America with a population of 65,000,000 produced 64,000,000 silver and coined but 9,000,000 and has 3,000,000 idle men to satisfy a cold blooded money trust.—Laborers' Tribune.

When you tell the gold money men list that the country is suffering from the loss of the two dollar dollar he just laughs. He is very glad talking about a fifty cent dollar, but the idea that there can be such a thing as a two hundred cent dollar excites his humorous qualities. But one position is as reasonable as the other. The country does not want these extremes. It simply wants its old honest dollar. Why can't everybody have some sense?—The Southwest.

## SILVERITES, ATTENTION!

A gentleman stood in a Reform bank yesterday, and while talking with him the financial question.

The teller listened to what he had to say, and then picking up a silver dollar that had a hole in it said: "This dollar was paid to a working girl who was for a dollar a day. Because of the hole in it she only got 47 cents for it, anywhere. Had she been paid a dollar with a hole in it she could have gotten 95 cents for it. This," said "is argument enough for me."

It would be for most people to run wild with the free-silver craze. The Times thinks the above a good objection to the working people. But the working people will only see it the advantage that is taken by the banker and the government to discriminate against the people's favorite money. A mutilated paper dollar can be exchanged for a crisp, new dollar bill fresh from the public treasury. The gold dollar is only made to the amount to which it has been lightened by the abrasion. The silver dollar, with the same stamp and plea of the government on it, when it is been defaced is made to pass at its full value. If this is true, it is not the dishonor of the silver dollar, but the government, which fails to protect all of its obligations a like.—Richmond Star.

## A BILL

To Prevent Discrimination Between Various Kinds of Legal tender Money in the United States, and to Maintain the Equal Debt paying and Purchasing Power Thereof, and for Other Purposes.

Mr. Butler introduced the following bill, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any note, bill, bond, draft, check, exchange, contract, mortgage, public or private obligation, or pecuniary liability hereafter made or contracted which may provide for its payment in a specific kind or kinds of legal tender money of the United States may be paid or discharged in any kind of legal tender money of the United States current at the time of its maturity or collection at its face value, such stipulation or agreement to the contrary notwithstanding.